

MEETING OF MARCH 18, 2008

Minutes of Meeting of Mar. 11, 2008

- President Freddy Walter presided over the meeting.
- Allen Anderson offered an invocation.
- Jolly Matthews led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Gene Owens welcomed visiting Rotarians and guests:
 - ❖ Jack Gay visited from the Petal Club.
 - ❖ Leon Wheeler was a guest of Allen Anderson.
 - ❖ Chrissy Gilder was the guest of the Rotary Club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Walter reminded everyone that the football auctioned at last week's luncheon was donated by the University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association. The Rotary Club greatly appreciated the donations with more items up for auction next week.
- 2) Bill McLeod reminded members that the tickets for the Night in Italy are \$9 and have been mailed. Each member should have received 15 tickets along with an invoice. Anyone not having received their tickets are encouraged to contact the office.
- 3) Richard Topp announced that if a member is interested in attending the cruise being offered as a part of the District Conference they should immediately contact Vicky Gutierrez. The fee is \$50 per person. Her email address is Vickyg@cableone.net. Her mailing address is 1598 Birkshire Court, Biloxi, MS 39532.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Dan Kibdeaux then introduced Chrissy Gilder as the guest speaker. Ms. Gilder is the 2006-2007 recipient of the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship. Her choice of country was Prague/Czech where she spent one year studying and looking for ways to serve the area. She became a member of the oldest Rotary Club in the Czech Republic. The club was established in 1918. The language barrier proved to be a difficult one for her to conquer. Chrissy noted that it took her a few weeks to settle in to the challenges presented to her in a foreign country with little knowledge of the language. One of the ways she served the area while working through the scholarship was to teach English to area students. She ended her summer recess by working on a French organic farm.

Ms. Gilder then presented a Rotary banner from the Rotary Club in the Czech Republic and thanked everyone for the scholarship and the opportunity it provided for her. She anticipates that the experience will assist her in the coming years as she seeks employment. She anticipates working in the diplomatic area for the United States.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Rebecca Hartfield is the Development Coordinator for the South Central Region of Mississippi Children's Home Services. A graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, Mrs. Hartfield has bachelor degrees in both public relations and social work. After graduation she began her career as an Adoption Specialist with the Mississippi Department of Human Services.

In 2005, Mrs. Hartfield finished her masters in social work at Southern Miss and began working with Mississippi Children's Home Services as an Intensive In-Home Therapist and Therapeutic Foster Care Case Manager. She became Development Coordinator in January 2007. Mrs. Hartfield is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and the National Association of Social Workers.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Rotary is a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

There are over 32,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. As signified by the motto Service Above Self, Rotary's main objective is service — in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world.

ROTARACT

In the late 1960s, noting the success of the recently formed [Interact](#) program, the RI Board realized the need for a program of service, activity, and fellowship for young adults no longer of Interact age (14-18). The name [Rotaract](#) (Rotary in Action) was selected to show the program's close affiliation with both Rotary and Interact clubs.

RI President Luther Hodges inaugurated Rotaract in 1968, with the Rotaract Club of University of North Carolina-Charlotte, USA, being the first club. The club received its charter on 13 March and had 21 members.

Within a day of the certification of the Rotaract Club of the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, the Rotaract Club of the University of La Salle was chartered in Tacubaya, Mexico. The Rotaract clubs of Florence, Italy; Gaston College and Sylva, both in North Carolina; and Secunderabad, India, were all certified in the following weeks. Since the 1950s, many Rotary clubs had been starting unofficial clubs for young adults, so this fueled Rotaract's rapid growth in its first few years. Rotaract grew from 21 clubs in 1967-68 to 289 clubs a year later. There are now 7,000 Rotaract clubs in 163 countries and geographic areas.

Rotaract clubs were originally open to young men and women ages 17-24. Since 1971, young adults ages 18-30 have been welcomed.

Kenny is choice for 2009-10 RI president

John Kenny

John Kenny, of the Rotary Club of Grangemouth, Central, Scotland, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in 2009-10. He will become the president-nominee on 1 December if there are no challenging candidates.



Kenny is a past dean of his local law faculty, a judge, and a notary. He is active in scouting and earned the Medal of Merit for helping form new scout groups in Eastern Europe. An elder of the Church of Scotland, he's served as session clerk and presbytery elder. Kenny was also appointed deputy

lieutenant of his district by Queen Elizabeth II. He is a past president of both the Forth Valley Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Scottish Junior Chamber of Commerce. He is also past general legal counsel of Jaycees International.

A Rotarian since 1970, Kenny served Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland as president and vice president. He has served RI as director, executive committee chair, Rotary Foundation trustee, institute moderator, district governor, convention vice chair and group leader, president's representative, and committee member and chair. He's been a delegate, member at large, and parliamentarian at several Councils on Legislation.

Kenny is a Major Donor to The Rotary Foundation and a Bequest Society member and has received the Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award.

Editor: Gary Garner